

IN THE CLAIMS:

The status of each claim that has been introduced in the above-referenced application is identified in the ensuing listing of the claims. This listing of the claims replaces all previously submitted claims listings.

1. (Currently amended) A spin coating method, comprising:  
applying a material to a substrate;  
spinning ~~said~~the substrate and ~~said~~the material at a substantially constant first speed;  
following ~~said~~the spinning, decreasing a rate of ~~said~~ spinning to a substantially constant second speed; and  
following ~~said~~ decreasing, gradually increasing a rate of ~~said~~the spinning to a substantially constant third speed.
2. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~said~~ spinning ~~said~~the substrate and ~~said~~the material at ~~said~~the first speed comprises substantially filling recesses formed in ~~said~~the substrate with ~~said~~the material.
3. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~said~~ decreasing ~~said~~the rate of spinning to ~~said~~the second speed comprises permitting material located within recesses formed in ~~said~~the substrate to set.
4. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
spinning ~~said~~the substrate and ~~said~~the material at ~~said~~the third speed to form a layer comprising ~~said~~the material over a surface of ~~said~~the substrate to a desired thickness.

5-6. (canceled)

7. (Currently amended) A spin coating method, comprising:  
applying a material to a substrate;  
spinning ~~said~~the substrate and ~~said~~the material at a first speed that permits ~~said~~the material to  
flow into recesses formed in ~~said~~the substrate;  
spinning ~~said~~the substrate at a second speed that permits ~~said~~the material within ~~said~~the recesses  
to set; and  
following ~~said~~ spinning ~~said~~the substrate at ~~said~~the second speed, gradually increasing a rate of  
spinning of ~~said~~the substrate to a third speed.
8. (Currently amended) The method of claim 7, wherein ~~said~~ spinning ~~said~~the  
substrate at ~~said~~the second speed follows ~~said~~ spinning ~~said~~the substrate at ~~said~~the first speed.
9. (Currently amended) The method of claim 8, wherein ~~said~~ spinning ~~said~~the  
substrate at ~~said~~the second speed comprises decreasing a rate at which ~~said~~the substrate is spun.
10. (Currently amended) The method of claim 7, wherein ~~said~~ spinning ~~said~~the  
substrate and ~~said~~the material at ~~said~~the first speed comprises substantially filling ~~said~~the  
recesses with ~~said~~the material.
11. (Currently amended) The method of claim 7, further comprising:  
spinning ~~said~~the substrate and ~~said~~the material at ~~said~~the third speed comprises to form a layer  
comprising ~~said~~the material over a surface of ~~said~~the substrate to a desired thickness.

12-13. (canceled)

14. (Currently amended) A spin coating method, comprising:  
applying a material to a substrate;  
spinning ~~said~~the substrate at a first speed to at least partially spread ~~said~~the material;  
following ~~said~~ spinning ~~said~~the substrate at ~~said~~the first speed, spinning ~~said~~the substrate at a  
second speed to permit at least some of ~~said~~the material to flow into at least one recess  
formed in ~~said~~the substrate; and  
following ~~said~~ spinning ~~said~~the substrate at ~~said~~the second speed, gradually increasing a rate of  
spinning of ~~said~~the substrate to a third speed.

15. (Currently amended) The method of claim 14, wherein ~~said~~ spinning ~~said~~the  
substrate at ~~said~~the first speed comprises substantially filling ~~said~~the at least one recess with  
~~said~~the material.

16. (Currently amended) The method of claim 14, wherein ~~said~~ spinning ~~said~~the  
substrate at ~~said~~the second speed comprises spinning ~~said~~the substrate at a speed that is slower  
than ~~said~~the first speed.

20. (Currently amended) The method of claim 14, further comprising:  
spinning ~~said~~the substrate at ~~said~~the third speed to form a layer comprising ~~said~~the material over  
a surface of ~~said~~the substrate to a desired thickness.

21. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
following ~~said~~ gradually increasing, again decreasing a rate of spinning of ~~said~~the substrate to a  
fourth speed.

22. (Currently amended) The method of claim 21, comprising permitting ~~said~~the material to set further while spinning ~~said~~the substrate at ~~said~~the fourth speed.
23. (Currently amended) The method of claim 21, further comprising:  
following ~~said~~the again decreasing, again increasing a rate of spinning of ~~said~~the substrate to a fifth speed.
24. (Currently amended) The method of claim 23, comprising substantially removing solvent from ~~said~~the material while spinning ~~said~~the substrate at ~~said~~the fifth speed.
25. (Currently amended) The method of claim 7, further comprising:  
following ~~said~~ gradually increasing, again decreasing a rate of spinning of ~~said~~the substrate to a fourth speed.
26. (Currently amended) The method of claim 25, comprising permitting ~~said~~the material to set further while spinning ~~said~~the substrate at ~~said~~the fourth speed.
27. (Currently amended) The method of claim 25, further comprising:  
following ~~said~~the again decreasing, again increasing a rate of spinning of ~~said~~the substrate to a fifth speed.
28. (Currently amended) The method of claim 27, comprising substantially removing solvent from ~~said~~the material while spinning ~~said~~the substrate at ~~said~~the fifth speed.
29. (Currently amended) The method of claim 14, further comprising:  
following ~~said~~ gradually increasing, again decreasing a rate of spinning of ~~said~~the substrate to a fourth speed.

30. (Currently amended) The method of claim 29, comprising permitting ~~said~~the material to set further while spinning ~~said~~the substrate at ~~said~~the fourth speed.

31. (Currently amended) The method of claim 29, further comprising:  
following ~~said~~ again decreasing, again increasing a rate of spinning of ~~said~~the substrate to a fifth speed.

32. (Currently amended) The method of claim 31, comprising substantially removing solvent from ~~said~~the material while spinning ~~said~~the substrate at ~~said~~the fifth speed.